



## DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND PLANNING

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Board of County Commissioners  
Michael Karnofski District 1  
Dennis Weber District 2  
James Misner District 3

DATE: July 31, 2013

SUBJECT: Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on Cowlitz County Headquarters Landfill

Dear Final EIS Recipient:

The Cowlitz County Department of Building and Planning has completed preparation of a Final EIS on Cowlitz County's proposed purchase of the existing Headquarters Landfill and its conversion to a municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill. The proponent of this project is the Cowlitz County Department of Public Works. The Headquarters Landfill is approximately 10 miles northeast of the City of Kelso.

Two alternatives are evaluated in this EIS—No Action and the Proposed Action. Under the Proposed Action, Cowlitz County would acquire the limited-purpose Headquarters Landfill and convert it to an MSW landfill for disposal of municipal, industrial, and other solid wastes (such as commercial, and construction and demolition wastes). The County would also construct a pipeline to convey leachate from the landfill to the Three Rivers Wastewater Treatment Plant in Longview. Within the overall Proposed Action, this EIS also evaluates options for the transport of waste to the landfill, including an option to transport all waste by truck. Under the No Action alternative, the landfill would continue to be operated as a limited purpose landfill and the County would long-haul its MSW to an out-of-county disposal facility.

Elements of the environment analyzed in this Final EIS include: earth; air, including odor and greenhouse gas emissions; water, including groundwater and surface water quality; plants and animals and their habitat; human health; noise; land and shoreline use; aesthetics; transportation; and public services and utilities. This Final EIS also addresses comments submitted to the County on the Draft EIS, which was issued on November 30, 2012. The text of the EIS has been modified to address public comments, to update the description of the Proposed Action, and to update the assessment of impacts and reasonable mitigation measures.

Electronic copies of the Final EIS can be obtained at the Cowlitz County Department of Building and Planning at the address in the letterhead. Paper copies can be purchased at cost at the same location.

Thank you for your time and interest in the environmental review process. Questions regarding this document or other aspects of the project described in the Final EIS may be addressed to the Cowlitz County Department of Building and Planning at 360-577-3052 or by email at [headquarterslandfill@co.cowlitz.wa.us](mailto:headquarterslandfill@co.cowlitz.wa.us).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elaine Placido".

Elaine Placido  
Director  
SEPA Responsible Official